National Highways in Kerala

1824. SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total extend of four-way tracks in the National Highways in Kerala;

(b) whether Government propose to convert further areas of the National Highways in Kerala into four lanes;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount, if any, set apart for the same and the areas, if any, selected for the conversion and the time by which the work relating to the same is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Atotal of 52 km length of National Highways in Kerala has been widened to four lanes.

(b) to (d) Four laning from Walayar to Vytila junction on NH-47 having a length of 167 km has been taken up under NHDP (Phase-I & II) in a phased manner and is scheduled for completion by December, 2007. Four laning from Vytila junction to Aroor on NH-47 having a length of 10 km has been taken up under Port Connectivity Scheme and is scheduled for completion by August, 2006.

Further four laning of the following stretches of National Highways in Kerala has been identified for inclusion in the NHDP (Phase-Ill) to be taken up on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis;

Stretch	NH No.	Length
(i) Thiruvananthapuram to Kerala/Tamil Nadu border	47	47
(ii) Cherthalai to Thiruvananthapuram	47	147
(iii) Edapally to Kozhikode	17	185
(iv) Kozhikode to Kerala/Karnataka border	17	250

The work of Feasibility Study and preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Stretch at (i) above has been take up. Bids for carrying out feasibility Study and Preparation of DPR for the balance stretches have been invited. These works of four laning would be taken up on BOT basis after finalisation of DPR and it is too early to indicate the amount and the time frame.

Expert advice on road problems

1825. SHRI V. HANUMANTHARAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a policy to extend expert advice whenever sought by any State Government to solve some problems • related to roads;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Director General, Roads is the nodal body to give advice on engineering problems related to roads;

(c) whether any request has-been received from the Andhra Pradesh Government in the last three months seeking advice on some road improvement work;

(d) if so, the details of such advice; and

(e) the response of Government to the request for expert advice on matters related to critical roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways in nodal Ministry for giving expert advice on road matters, case to case basis.

(b) Director General (Road Development) is the head of the Roads Wing in the Ministry and acts as Chief Adviser to the Government of India in all matters concerning road development.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.